

Tireless Volunteers, p.12



Greenbelt Opinions, pp.6 & 8

Liggins Updates Council on Some Options to Support Businesses

by Matthew Arbach

At a worksession on July 15 Greenbelt Economic Development Coordinator Charise Liggins updated the Greenbelt City Council on the status of the city's economic challenges and strategies as it contends with the COVID-19 pandemic. She focused on business recovery, offering recommendations, along with a proposed fund to provide capital grants to struggling businesses.

When asked by Councilmember Emmett Jordan about the current state of business, Liggins replied that an exact summary was difficult to provide as the situation changes so frequently. Her goal is seeking how to move forward with businesses devastated by the unexpected crisis.

Response to the pandemic has been a mixed bag, with some businesses able to pivot to new approaches and being proactive in their search for assistance and response to outreach, while others are not. Currently, Greenbelt has 2,570 businesses, making contacting all a daunting task.

In their outreach efforts, staff have used a mixture of phone, video and online assistance, such as a COVID-19 Resource for Businesses on the city's Economic Development website, which is updated as new resources become available.

Since last checking, Liggins said that unemployment was at

See LIGGINS, page 8

GIVES Celebrates 25th Year Helping Residents to Thrive

by Melissa Sites



PHOTO BY RACHEL GLICK

GIVES founder Janet Jacobs-Parker celebrates at the GIVES 20th anniversary.

Greenbelt GIVES (Greenbelt Intergenerational Volunteer Exchange Service) celebrated its 25th anniversary in June. GIVES is a member organization where volunteers help other members who need a little help while living independently in their own homes.

"Unless they need us, they don't know about us," said Carol Drees, GIVES president since June 2019. "Two hundred thirty Greenbelters are currently members. You don't have to be active. You have to be willing to help. You can help by calling somebody once in a while."

GIVES volunteers might do light housework, meal preparation

or delivery, laundry, mending and sewing, closet cleaning, gardening or yard work, reading or tending to correspondence, computer help, help with tax preparation, rides to doctor visits or to the grocery store, shopping, errands, pet sitting or simple home repairs. GIVES volunteers may stop by for a friendly visit or call each other regularly to check in (telephone reassurance). GIVES volunteers provide respite care to allow family members to leave the house when members can't be left alone. GIVES also encourages members to take the AARP safe driving course, a refresher

See GIVES, page 6

Greenbelt Police report the arrest of Darlan Josue Suarez Menjivar of Lanham on first degree murder and related charges in the stabbing death of Travis Devon Melvin in the 6100 block of Breezewood Drive on July 4. Menjivar is also charged with the stabbing of another man on April 20 in the 5700 block of Cherrywood Lane. Menjivar remains in custody.

Give an Account for Eternity: Put "Neighbor" in the "Hood"

by René Sewell-Rayson

Este artículo está disponible en español en nuestra página web www.greenbeltnewsreview.com.

Thunderclouds loomed as the Black Lives Matter/Stop the Violence March and Rally gathered on the evening of Monday, July 20. Organizer Ric Gordon and his cohort of activists, LaWann Stribling, Carla Johns, Amanda Jennings, Lucy Silver and Janna Parker, were not deterred. Gordon opened with a poem from Dr. Benjamin Mays, I Have Only Just a Minute: "But it's up to me to use it. I must suffer if I lose it. Give account if I abuse it ... but eternity is in it."

Gordon reminded the marchers that in this moment, those who had come on foot and on bicycles in 90-plus degree weather were giving an account for eternity.

As the marchers gathered, messages emblazoned across T-shirts reinforced the tenor of the rally: Black Skin is not a Crime, Black Lives Matter in Sign Language, and the haunting picture of a Greenbelt family whose father was killed by violence.

The Black Lives March was broadened to include stopping the violence in Franklin Park.



PHOTO BY RIC GORDON

Rally organizers pose with Mayor Colin Byrd. From left: Lucy Silver, Amanda Jennings, Carla Johns, LaWann Stribling, Ric Gordon and Mayor Byrd

Speaker after speaker reminded the audience that Franklin Park is a part of Greenbelt. Pastor Claude Jennings of Impact Fellowship, pointing to the crowd, said that

this is what neighborliness looks like. "While those who do wrong seem loud, those of us who are

See RALLY, page 6

Greenbelt Recreation Pulls Out All the Stops on Summer Fun

by Matthew Arbach

Thanks to the Herculean efforts of the city's Recreation Department, summer camps are up and running, in a virtual setting this time. Said Recreation Program Supervisor Anne Oudemans, "We did it," calling this year's effort Summer Connect to differentiate it from the normal fare.

She said that pairs of pre-recorded presentations with online interactive sessions are available on a diverse range of subjects — such as arts, cooking, dance and fitness — offering "quantity, quality and flexibility" to participants. Chris Cherry, Andrew Phelan and newly hired Taylor Hardy

are this year's camp staff. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic, all-day childcare, a normal part of the summer program, had to be omitted.

Recorded presentations are added daily and remain available for anyone to access. Students familiar with the Google classroom format can also enjoy live Zoom interactions as well, cutting back on large amounts of solitary screen time.

Recreation staff have had to be trained in this new, virtual approach, an effort that was put together quickly and implemented throughout May and June in order to meet the June 20 reopening deadline. What was usually a very interactive experience for staff had to be transitioned to a more independent one.

Camp Pine Tree is one of

See CAMPS, page 7

What Goes On

Monday, July 27
8 p.m. Worksession: Capital Projects
Wednesday, July 29
8 p.m. Worksession: City Manager's Update
All meetings are virtual. See the meetings calendar at greenbeltdmd.gov for agendas and information on public participation in these meetings.



PHOTO BY KEN LOO

With the Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center closed, Christine (back) and Emilia Loo find alternative ways to cool off.

Letters to the Editor

In Praise of the Mayor

In these last several weeks, I have been deeply moved by Mayor Colin Byrd’s unwavering commitment to, and personification of, compassionate understanding and respect for all Greenbelters and their sometimes disparate views on very emotional and highly personal life experiences.

Byrd vividly exemplifies the epitome of leadership through difficult times. He is deeply passionate about his beliefs and he offers, but not demands acceptance of, these thoughts and feelings that provide a window to his essence.

I am awed, but not surprised, by his sensitivity, humanity and ability to listen, understand and bring people together.

The substance of Byrd’s remarks and the effects of his own life experiences need to be heard and understood in the context of life in Greenbelt.

I have watched Byrd grow into a profound orator and powerful witness to our Greenbelt existence. His grace and positive demeanor when speaking to residents of Greenbelt are greatly needed and widely appreciated.

Byrd has challenged us with a clear call to action. Instead of seeing what happens next, though, he has reminded us that it is, in fact, we who must act decisively and be the force that determines what happens next.

He has recognized that it is we, the residents of Greenbelt and beyond, who must answer that challenge and effect the changes we want to see.

I am proud to call him Mayor, but most of all he is an inspiration.

I am writing this in gratitude for who Mayor Byrd is and what he does.

Michael Hartman

End Systemic Racism

What a huge disappointment to have the evocative essay submitted by Patrick Gleason, graduate of Eleanor Roosevelt High School and currently English teacher at the same institution, followed a few weeks later by an all lives matter advertisement supporting the police unconditionally.

It should not be so difficult for brown and black members of the community, whether or not they are citizens or residents, to make it known that there is more than one Greenbelt, and the one that greets them every day is less forgiving than the one that its white members encounter. An unwillingness to understand that, or to take action to prevent that from happening, is what makes Greenbelt great for a select few of its community members.

Historically, Greenbelt was exclusionary of non-whites from the very first day that the federal government’s housing project opened its doors to applications for residency. That wasn’t inevitable because of the times – it was federal pragmatism when faced with strong local racism. A nearly identical (in scope) federal housing project, Yesler Terrace, was built in Seattle in 1939, and was completely integrated. Decisions made generations ago have shaped both communities, and they couldn’t be more different today. The ways that the Greenbelt community addresses

systemic racism now will shape it and its residents for the future – and I would like to see Greenbelt take positive steps towards becoming the inclusive community that signs at City Hall promoted 10 years ago.

Some thoughts are opinions, and everyone is entitled to have their own perspective. However, when we live in a society, we also agree to some ground rules, such as stopping at red lights. Some things people think are opinions, or politics, are really not up for discussion. Black lives matter.

Leah Cohen

Thank You to Greenbelt And the News Review

My mother, Dr. Virginia Walcott Beauchamp, would have been 100 years old just two weeks ago, had she lived another year to witness the love and tributes from this community in her honor in endowing a scholarship in Women’s Studies in her name at University of Maryland-College Park.

One hundred years ago, just as she was born, women finally got the right to vote, so also in my mother’s honor, because she worked so hard throughout her life in Maryland and nationally to achieve equal rights for women, I hope everyone, but particularly all women 18 and older, will register or update their current address and vote on or before (in early voting or vote-by-mail) November 3, 2020. The presidential election will be just 100 days away on this Sunday, July 26.

When I was about 16 in 1972, I drove to the College Park campus to pick up my mother from a meeting on women’s issues, and she was still talking with Dr. Maggi Bridwell, who was the first woman (a doctor of medicine) to head a major university campus student health care center in the U.S. – the only one in the whole country at the time. Dr. Bridwell said, “You know women are different physiologically (we have different body parts), different chemically (hormonally) and different genetically (two X chromosomes versus an X and a Y for the men), yet all the pharmaceutical companies never test any drugs on women – only the men – and then extrapolate that they will somehow work on us the same way! This isn’t even scientifically valid!” That was why my mother and several other women set about to establish studies in every discipline that also included women. Women are half the human race, but it was just assumed that the data would be the same! Precisely because they began studying the differences in the human genome and including women in medical studies, medicine has advanced dramatically since then.

My father was deployed in Vietnam and around the world, such that although they were married for 22 years, my parents were only actually together about 11 of them. The rest of the time she had to “soldier on” on the home front raising three children, which was also common for many military and diplomatic families. She was 57 when they divorced in 1977, and she could not get a credit card in her own name despite holding a senior-level role on the College Park

campus. My mother went to see Gladys Noon Spellman, who was then our Congresswoman. She said, “You know, even though I’m in Congress, I have to get my husband Reuben to co-sign for me!” Thus, in 1978 the Equal Credit Bill got through Congress with Congresswoman Spellman sponsoring it so that women could finally get a loan in their own name. Women in economics, women in politics, women in history, women in any scientific discipline – these are all now part of the discipline of women’s studies which my mother helped pioneer, encourage, build and recruit women to the campus to teach.

Therefore, it falls to me to say, “thank you so much,” on behalf of my mother, Virginia Beauchamp, and that of her family, to the News Review staff, to Mary Lou Williamson for spearheading the fundraiser and to those members of the wonderful Greenbelt community who gave so generously to this ongoing annual award, which will continue to grow now that it is fully endowed.

Edith Beauchamp



Drop Us a Line!

Electronically, that is.
editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com

Se Habla Español

Vaya a nuestra página web
greenbeltnewsreview.com
para ver artículos en español.



See our website,
greenbeltnewsreview.com,
for articles in Spanish.

New Submission Deadlines

The Greenbelt News Review has revised its deadlines in view of the impact of COVID-19 on our operations. The new deadlines are:

Display ads: Copy that is not camera-ready – 2 p.m. Monday

Display ads: Camera-ready copy – 6 p.m. Tuesday

Classified ads: 6 p.m. Tuesday

Letters to the editor (which should be fewer than 300 words): 2 p.m. Tuesday

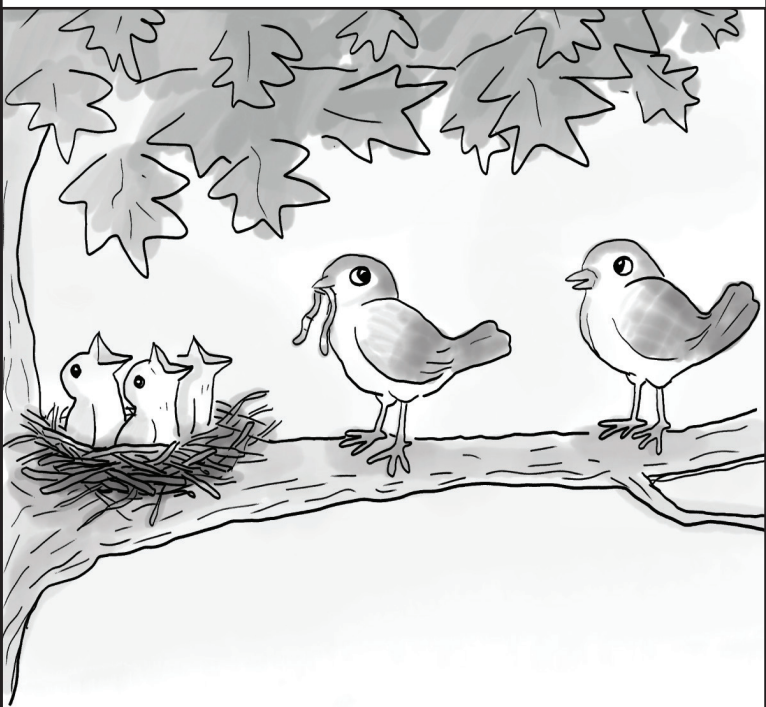
Stories under 700 words: 2 p.m. Tuesday

Stories over 700 words: 2 p.m. Monday

Photos: 2 p.m. Tuesday

Community events: 2 p.m. Tuesday

Service Side or Garden Side?



I can’t wait for them to start social distancing on their own.

- B. Glee

Letters Policy

The News Review reserves the right not to publish any letter submitted. Letters are considered accepted when published.

All letters must include the letter writer’s name, physical address and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider withholding the name upon request.

All letters are subject to editing for reasons of space, libel, privacy, taste, copyright and clarity.



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DEADLINES: Letters, Photos and Articles under 700 words - 2 p.m. Tuesday. Display Ads and stories over 700 words - 2 p.m. Monday. Classified Ads and camera-ready Display Ads - 6 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be emailed, or mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 2 p.m. Tuesday) or dropped through the mail slot for our office on the east side of the Community Center, (side closest to the Municipal Building) 15 Crescent Road. Mail subscriptions—\$50/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 10 p.m.

Community Events

Meals on Wheels Launches GoFundMe

Meals on Wheels of College Park provides those in need in Prince George’s County, including Greenbelt, with a food delivery service. Since the pandemic began, they have nearly doubled their client base, straining their resources. The organization is now seeking community support in order to expand.

On Sunday, Meals on Wheels of College Park launched a GoFundMe campaign to raise \$500,000 to support the purchase of new kitchen appliances and supplies to feed those affected by COVID-19. Learn more or contribute at charity.gofundme.com/en/campaign/fund-us-to-feed-them.

Zoom to the Stars

The Astronomical Society of Greenbelt will be holding an online Zoom lecture on Thursday, July 30 at 7:30 p.m. The speaker will be Dr. Harold Williams of Montgomery College. Williams will present a lecture from his Star Stories series. The story Follow the Drinking Gourd explains how Ursa Major, the Big Dipper, was used by slaves to navigate north to freedom.

The song and route used to navigate the Tombigbee River is sung and explained.

Email greenbeltastro@gmail.com to get the Zoom link. The link is also available from the Astronomical Society’s homepage, greenbeltastro.org. Look for a link from the lecture announcement near the bottom of the page.

Zoom on COVID-19 Effects on Seniors

Hyattsville Aging in Place (HAP) and Helping Hands University Park (HHUP) are co-hosting a discussion of COVID-19 and how it affects seniors on Saturday, August 8. Dr. Stephanie Trifoglio, a geriatrician who has practiced in the Greenbelt area for decades, will look at the risks of COVID-19 for seniors and provide the latest information on the virus. There will be time for questions and answers during the meeting. This is a Zoom conference that can be accessed by telephone or online. The session will open at 1:30 p.m. for chatting or help, with the program starting at 2 p.m.

Preregister for the session by Friday, August 7 at 5 p.m. To register, call 301-887-3101 (HAP office) or 301-892-6636 (HHUP office), or visit 02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZ0tceirzrwjH9LOJKFkdSzyMWhE1J3W4IN.

Boxwood Scholarship Applications Due Soon

The Boxwood Village Civic Association is seeking applicants for its annual \$500 scholarship award to a resident of Boxwood Village. It is available to graduating high school seniors and full-time (at least 12 credit hours per semester) undergraduate students.

The application form should be completed and returned by Friday, July 31. For further information or to pick up an application form, contact Robert Goldberg-Strassler at 301-345-8755 or spreadruak@gmail.com.

Draw, Paint, Stitch And Zoom for Peace

On August 4, 1985, the 40th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima, more than 25,000 fabric panels, held by about 15,000 people, were tied together forming The Ribbon around the Pentagon, White House and Capitol. The theme was “What I cannot bear to think of as lost forever in a nuclear war.” Panels arrived from all 50 states and many countries. Greenbelt Community Church collected and displayed panels from Minnesota, hosted a dinner and recruited lodgings for Minnesotans participating in the event.

Free rides were offered from Greenbelt Suburban Bank to the Capitol on the morning of the celebration. (See archive.org/details/GNR1985080101/page/n1.)

This year, on the 75th anniversary of the first, and ever more fearfully, possibly not the last nuclear bombings, another Ribbon Celebration is planned. Due to the pandemic it will be more localized and online, but artists and needleworkers are again creating 18” x 36” panels to be displayed in August. For more information see facebook.com/ribbonwashingtondc, peaceactionmd.org/issues/nuclear-disarmament or youtube.com/watch?v=c5FiK79mvYk.

Overeaters Meet

Overeaters Anonymous is continuing to hold its newcomer introductory meeting by Zoom at 6:45 p.m. on the first and third Monday of each month (August 3 and 17) and their regular Greenbelt meeting by Zoom or phone at 7:30 p.m. every Monday. Overeaters Anonymous is a 12-step program modelled after Alcoholics Anonymous that provides help and recovery for those troubled by overeating, undereating or other food-related behaviors. For more information, call 240-305-3433 or visit their D.C. region website at oa-dcmetro.org.

Toastmasters Meet Online Wednesdays

The Greenbelt Toastmasters Club has gone virtual. Those interested in improving communication or leadership skills are invited to join online or by phone every first, third and fifth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Find details for joining remotely at greenbelt.toastmastersclubs.org.

PGCMLS Offers Online Programs

Virtual Learning with Live Tutors offers the Summer Skills Camp to keep elementary (grades 3 to 5), middle (grades 6 to 8) and high school (grades 9 to 12) students engaged over the summer. This service is provided for free through the Prince George’s County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS). The virtual camp offers live tutoring, mini-lessons and activities in math, science and writing. A library card or Prince George’s County Public Schools LINK card number is required to access the virtual camp.

Along with the virtual Summer @ Your Library (S@YL) events, the Brainfuse HelpNow Summer Skills Camp will help children avoid the so-called summer slide, when students lose academic skills over the summer.

Children’s Author Series

Children’s author Antoine Lunsford is collaborating on the launch of a new virtual event series called Antoine & Friends: Local Children’s Author Series. Every Friday this summer at 11 a.m., local children and families will have the opportunity to hear authors who live and work in the community read their books. All programs will be streamed live on Crowdcast, YouTube, Facebook and Twitter.

Storytelling with ASL

PGCMLS offers Storytelling with ASL (American Sign Language) on Saturdays at 10 a.m. on Crowdcast. The virtual program, recommended for ages 2 to 5, will continue for the duration of the health emergency.

Live Virtual Events

PGCMLS continues a weekly series of live virtual Summer @ Your Library (S@YL) events for all ages. Tune in Wednesdays at 4 p.m. until August 26 for live performances and educational programs that highlight the 2020 S@YL theme of Imagine Your Story. The 2019 World Series Champion Washington Nationals are generously making a wide range of online content available for Prince Georgians through S@YL with the PGCMLS, including story times with the World Series Champs, reading activities in English and Spanish and reading recommendations for kids through adults.

All PGCMLS virtual events are free and open to the public. The programs are streamed on Crowdcast with select additional streams on Facebook, YouTube and Twitter. Register for all events at pgcmls.info/virtual-events.

City Food Scraps Composting Program to Begin August 1

Starting Saturday, August 1, Greenbelt will provide a new food scraps drop-off program for residents. Public Works is partnering with Compost Crew, a locally owned business in Rockville, whose mission is to “protect the planet, reduce waste and build community wealth.” This initiative will decrease the amount of compostable food waste filling up the Prince George’s County landfill while improving local soil health. The drop-off station will be located at the Residential Recycling Center located between the Public Works building and Buddy Attick Park. Residents will be able to drop off a wide variety of compostable materials including BPI-certified compostable ware and bags, coffee filters and even meat and dairy products. This drop-off site is not for yard waste, which Public Works picks up on Fridays for residents.

Food constitutes approximately 22 percent of solid waste in America. Many landfills will reach their permitted capacity within the next 10 years. Composting food scraps is an easy and effective way to divert waste from landfills. Food waste in landfills slowly breaks down over time through anaerobic (without oxygen) processes that produce harmful greenhouse gases such as methane, a gas 80 times more potent than carbon dioxide, contributing to climate change.

Compost Crew will deliver the food scraps from the drop-off program to Prince George’s Organics Composting Facility (PGOCF). Gore Cover technology regulates high temperatures and oxygen levels to effectively compost food scraps within 30 days. The end product is known as LeafgroGOLD, a nutrient-rich dark humus-like material that’s an excellent soil amendment and is sold to local farmers, landscapers and residents to improve soil health.

To participate in the Food Scraps Drop-Off Program, email the city’s environmental coordinator, Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll, at kdriscoll@greenbeltmd.gov with name, phone number, home address and the number of household occupants. The first 100 registrants will receive a complimentary 5-gallon bucket and a 1.3-gallon kitchen caddy to collect food scraps. It’s not a requirement to register for the program to participate but strongly recommended to help track its overall success in decreasing the waste stream heading to the local landfill.

For more information visit greenbeltmd.gov/government/departments-con-t/public-works/trash-recycling/food-scraps-drop-off. For questions, contact Carpenter-Driscoll at the email address given above.



PHOTO BY JERRY BONNELL

The Velociraptor of Greenbelt, according to ornithologist and GNR Secretary Deanna Dawson, is a young Grackle. Scary!



GATe GREENBELT ACCESS TELEVISION Friday July 24 - Thursday July 30		
PROGRAM SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE		CONNECT WITH GATe ON  
7 am	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATe Archive
8 am	Democracy Now!	• Repeat of Yesterday's Program
9 am	GATe Classic Film ★ Noir/Thriller • 1946	• The Stranger • Edward G Robinson • Loretta Young • Directed by Orson Welles
11 am	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATe Archive
SAT/SUN	Member Spotlight	• GATe Community Producers
12 pm	Democracy Now!	• Today's Program • Independent News
1 pm	Science Bowl PGCPs	• Judge Woods v Thomas Stone • Indian Queen v Mother Jones
2 pm	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATe Archive
3 pm	GATe Classic Film ★ Noir/Thriller • 1946	• The Stranger • Edward G Robinson • Loretta Young • Directed by Orson Welles
5 pm	Science Bowl PGCPs	• Judge Woods v Thomas Stone • Indian Queen v Mother Jones
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6 pm	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATe Archive
7 pm	Democracy Now!	• Today's Program • Independent News
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10 pm	Democracy Now!	• Today's Program • Independent News
11 pm	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATe Archive
12 am	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATe Archive
WATCH US on VERIZON Fios 19 or COMCAST 77 STREAMING LIVE at www.greenbeltaccessstv.org/channel-live-stream		



PHOTO BY JEFFREY JONES

News Review member Jeffrey Jones responds with humor during an exchange regarding the correct identification of a skink species.

In Memoriam

Lucille Keyes (Part 2)

One experience with Lucille that I will never forget was when I just happened to enter Lucille’s place and wrote her a note about something I wanted her to know. She let me use her key with the hope that I would responsibly lock her service-side door. Then I was supposed to hand the key back to her outside. Absentmindedly I left the key inside. This made her mad because she really needed time to prepare supper for herself and her daughter, Sherie. I told her that I was deeply sorry about this situation. Then I turned around and her next-door neighbor said, “Don’t worry about her.” He opened the door with his extra key that belonged to Lucille. I felt so relieved as I picked up Lucille’s key on the kitchen counter. Then I locked the door. I was looking for her outside.

I decided to challenge her. I remember that she tended to help a blind lady, who lived in the 3 Court of Gardenway, with financial statements. I went across the road to knock on that neighbor’s door. Another lady responded and let me enter. She called Lucille and Lucille was thrilled to see I had the key. She wrote on a piece of paper, “All is forgiven.”



We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Lori Moran who died at age 90 on July 18. She had lived in Greenbelt for 48 years.

Our condolences to the family and many friends of Kathy Kerr Perkinson, who died on July 10.

Condolences to the family of longtime Greenbelter William Shields, of Hillside Road, who died in his sleep on July 15.

Share your accomplishments, milestones and news in the Our Neighbors column. Send details of your news items to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

Obituaries

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present. You write it or we will if you prefer. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.

Worship with us at

Greenbelt Baptist Church

Biblical
Confessional
Reformed
Gospel Centered

Join us OUTSIDE Sundays at 10:00am/Wednesdays (online) at 7:00pm
www.greenbeltbaptist.org
Instagram/Facebook/Youtube

<<101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt MD>>
www.greenbeltbaptist.org
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@GreenbeltBaptist

We hugged each other with our good feelings!

Sometime in 2010 Lucille slid all the way down her stairs, from top to bottom. A few days later someone called me to come see her at her home. I was surprised to see that a nurse was with her and she had bandages on the lower part of both legs. Luckily, she looked fine and had no broken bones. She wrote that she counted 13 steps. She missed the first step and her hand went up the wall where there were some pictures with glass frames. The frames fell down and broke the glass. Some pieces of glass cut her legs.

Lucille was very loyal to check my mail when I was on vacation. My father, who lived in Indiana, asked me to thank Lucille for her kindness in doing that.

She always honored her American flag with an automatic light on outside on her garden side lawn.

I enjoyed seeing her large collection of many different colorful turtles made of glass and ceramic on three shelves at the corner of her dining room. Her love for turtles fascinated me.

She was a Redskins fan for many years. Me too.

Almost daily she enjoyed doing the word puzzles in the Washington Post. It helped in keeping her mind sharp.

Lastly, I usually swing on my chair outside on my porch while I am looking at her unit in 2 Court Gardenway. It reminds me that I have had her as a certain friend in my life. Now she is resting in peace.

- Sara N. Johnston
Part 1 of this article can be found in the June 25 issue, on page 4.

Lori Moran



Lori Moran

PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Loraine (Lori) R. Moran died on July 18, 2020. Born on April 21, 1930, she grew up in Altoona, Pa. She graduated from Mercy Hospital School of Nursing in 1951. In 1952, she moved to Washington, D.C., where she worked at various hospitals and related nursing fields as a registered nurse. Lori married Thomas Moran on May 1, 1965 and raised two children. The family lived in Boxwood Village for 48 years and Tom and Lori moved to Hillhaven Assisted Living in 2016. Tom died in December, 2017.

Lori was an active member of St. Hugh’s Catholic Church including the Ladies of Charity, Sodality and other parish groups. She was very involved with the Golden Age Club, serving as travel chair for many years, and also the Greenbelt Homemakers Club.

Lori and Tom enjoyed traveling after he retired. Lori was known for her sense of humor and loved to tell jokes.

She is survived by her son David (Sara), daughter Kathleen (Efrain Betancourt) and two granddaughters (Mikayla and Natasha).

Obituaries

A funeral mass at St. Hugh’s and interment at Gate of Heaven Cemetery occurred on July 23. Memorial donations may be made to the Washington Retreat House, 4000 Harewood Road N.E., Washington, DC 20017.

Kathryn Kerr Perkinson



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Kathryn Kerr Perkinson

Kathryn (Kathy) Kerr Perkinson of Greenbelt died peacefully on Friday, July 10, 2020, following a series of strokes that began on June 11.

Kathy was born in Raleigh, N.C., on May 7, 1948. Her family moved to University Park in 1950 and she remained a Marylander the rest of her life. Kathy relocated to Greenbelt in 1986 when she married her husband, Don. Their only son, John, was born in Greenbelt in 1988 and currently resides in Madrid, Spain.

Kathy graduated from the University of Maryland in 1970 and was a longtime federal employee, most recently with the U.S. Department of Education where she worked as an editor until her retirement in 2014. She was a longtime member of St. Andrew’s Episcopal Church in College Park until the family transferred membership to St. George’s Episcopal Church Glenn Dale in 2011.

Kathy was an avid reader and particularly enjoyed the works of Thomas Merton, Thomas Keating and St. Francis of Assisi. She was active in many local prayer groups, and dedicated much of her time to volunteering and helping a great number of people with spiritual guidance as well as with their struggles fighting addiction.

Her death was the result of a condition known as Cerebral Amyloid Angiopathy (CAA).

In addition to her son and husband, Kathy is survived by one sister, Carolyn, and three nephews, one niece and four great-nephews.

Memorial contributions being considered may be made in her name to CAA Research Center’s potentially life-saving work at: “Massachusetts General Hospital - Fund 028184” and mailing it to: Massachusetts General Hospital, Development Office, Attn: Elizabeth Barberio, 125 Nashua Street, Suite 540, Boston, MA 02114.

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors
Find us on facebook.com/mowattumc
301-474-9410

Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor

In person worship services cancelled for now.
Live streaming on our Facebook page @mowattumc.
10 a.m. Sunday mornings

Greenbelt Community Church

God is Still Speaking UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
a just world for all

Check us out on Facebook Live
this Sunday at 10:15 AM
https://www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD

1 Hillside Road 301-474-6171 Rev. Glenlyce Grindstaff

Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield

An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm
Saturday morning services at 10:00am
All services and activities are currently virtual
For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community

July 26 10 a.m.

ARE WE QUILTBAG+ WELCOMING?

Minister Rev. Rachel Christensen and Reese Myrdon; with Worship Associate Clark Ritz

Join Rev. Rachel and Reese Myrdon as they explore LGBTQIA+ stories at Paint Branch, in the community, and in the world.

[* <http://wiktionary.org/wiki/QUILTBAG>] ONLINE ONLY.
Streaming information at <http://bit.ly/PBAug2020>

The Bible Says...

And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.
Philippians 4:19

Sunday Worship Services
10a-11a ONLINE
MCFcc.org/online

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

RETURN TO PUBLIC CELEBRATION

With joy, we return to the public celebration of Mass. Attendance is limited to 100 persons per Mass, all (3 and up) must wear masks. All details available on our website. Mon-Fri 7:15am, Sat 9am; Sat vigil 5pm; Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
Confessions Saturday 3pm - 4pm

135 Crescent Rd.
www.sthughofgrenoble.org

“We believe that the tribulations now encompassing much of the world are the symptoms of humanity’s failure to understand and embrace our essential oneness. The interrelated threats of climate change, gender discrimination, extreme wealth and poverty, unfair distribution of resources, and the like, all stem from this deficiency and can never be resolved if we do not awaken to our dependence upon each other. The world has contracted to a neighborhood, and it is important to appreciate that what we do in America impacts not only our own country, but the entire planet.” (from a statement of the U.S. Baha’i national administrative body - see entire statement at www.greenbeltbahais.org)

Greenbelt Bahá’í Community
1-800-22-UNITE 301-345-2918
Greenbelt.Bahai.Info@gmail.com www.greenbeltbahais.org

City Notes

Sustainability/Environmental began the Food Scraps Drop-Off composting program even as refuse/recycling collected 31.95 tons of refuse and 13.45 tons of recyclables. After a search, the city has found a new paper recycling contractor.

Recreation Department and Old Greenbelt Theatre management met to plan Moonlit Movies – recently approved by council. Kinder Camp and Camp Pine Tree campers’ live and recorded camp activities include science experiments. Creative Kids, Circus Camp and Camp Encore refine performance skills. Archery returns in late July. Gradual Recreation Department reopening may involve outdoor classroom spaces for some activities. Arts staff are adapting (for online use) a county-granted after-school arts program for Springhill Lake Elementary students.

Therapeutic Recreation coordinated with county and Recreation staff to receive and deliver a week’s worth of frozen meals for 37 home-bound seniors.

Park Rangers reminded visitors of rules against personal grills and unleashed dogs.

Greenbelt CARES Tiffany Gibbs was host/keynote speaker for an online discussion, Anti-Racism in the EFT Room.

At the Library

Greenbelt Library curbside service hours: Tuesday, 1 to 8 p.m.; Wednesday through Friday, 1 to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 1 to 5 p.m. (by appointment only).

Phase 1 of the library reopening plan began on Tuesday, July 21. During this phase, buildings will remain closed to the public. However, curbside service will be provided for the pickup of up to 25 held items per vehicle/visit by scheduled appointment only. Existing holds placed prior to the library’s closure will be filled first, with new hold requests now being accepted via the Prince George’s County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS) catalog (catalog.pgcmls.info/polaris) or the new Telephone Reference service at 240-455-5451. Individual branch phone numbers will not be available during this phase. Upon notification of item(s) availability, customers may book appointments for pickup through the PGCMLS website (pgcmls.info) or the Telephone Reference service.

The Greenbelt Library has five curbside pickup spaces for use in the parking lot by the lower level entrance. To ensure the health and safety of everyone, items will be placed in vehicle trunks (or back seats) in as much of a contact-free manner as possible. Pickup by those arriving on foot or by bicycle is allowed, if indicated when scheduling a pickup time.

Book drops reopened on July 9. Returned items will be checked-in after a 72-hour quarantine period. Any items checked out prior to the closure currently have an extended due date of September 1. To avoid potential contamination of materials, staff may not accept returns by hand. Customers must place all returns directly in the outdoor book drops.

Further information is available on the PGCMLS website at pgcmls.info/reopening.

The library is now fine-free: all existing overdue fines have been waived.



City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

VIRTUAL MEETINGS FOR JULY 27-31

Monday, July 27 at 8pm, **COUNCIL WORK SESSION**
re: Capital Projects. Virtual meeting will be shown live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996, and streaming at www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv

Tuesday, July 28 at 7:00pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TREES** (Virtual) On the Agenda: Discussion about the Eleanor Roosevelt Memorial Tree dedication in October and Discussion about the proposed Vegetation Management Plan for the Franklin Park area of Greenbelt

Wednesday, July 29 at 8pm, **CITY MANAGER UPDATE**, Virtual meeting will be shown live on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996, and streaming at www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv
Special/Closed Session – Personnel Matter and Legal Matters after the City Manager Update. See notice below.

This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000. For information on public participation for the virtual meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at www.greenbeltmd.gov.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

In accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1) and (7) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, a closed session of the Greenbelt City Council will be held on Wednesday, July 29th, 2020, immediately following the virtual City Manager’s Update Work Session to: 1) discuss the appointment, employment, assignment, promotion, discipline, demotion, compensation, removal, resignation, or performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; 2) to consult with legal counsel regarding outstanding legal matters. The purpose of this meeting will be City Manager briefing on pending personnel and legal issues.

**The public may attend the Work Session of the City Council immediately prior to the closed session and observe the vote of Council to move into closed session. Bonita Anderson, City Clerk*

GREENBELT RECREATION

Summer Fun Activity Kits



Join us on
Monday, July 27
10am-12noon
(or until they are gone)
Schrom Hills Park
6915 Hanover Pkwy.

Summer Fun Activity Kits will be provided free of charge to Greenbelt residents. Kits are designed for youth ages 3+ and are filled with art supplies, sports equipment and more! Please bring proof of Greenbelt Residency.



Emergency Diaper Pick-Up

Need help with diapers? In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, The Greenbelt Nursery Project is supporting needy Prince George’s county families by distributing diapers on Monday, August 10th, 2020.

Parents are required to bring state-issued photo ID, each child’s birth certificate, proof of Prince George’s residency (mail from a federal, state, or local government agency which display their name and Prince George’s county residential address).

No walk-ups accepted. Please register online at <https://forms.gle/sV89mpkbFGscQAHS9>. Registration required. Time and location given upon submitted registration.

Katherine Farzin
Bilingual Community Outreach Coordinator
Greenbelt Assistance in Living program
City of Greenbelt, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Office: (240) 542-2019



Follow the City of Greenbelt on Facebook and on Twitter



GREENBELT RECREATION CELEBRATES PARK & RECREATION MONTH

We Are Parks and Recreation! Did you know there are almost 50 Recreation and Parks Departments across the State of Maryland? Wherever your travels take you in our great state, there are Recreation and Parks professionals dedicated to providing a quality experience. Get out there!



REGISTER NOW AND CONNECT WITH YOUR CAMP FRIENDS!

Summer fun plans for youth ages 3 through 17 years.

For the first time, anyone near or far, can attend our summer camps!

Reach out to invite faraway friends and family to join your child for camp this summer! Enrollment is ongoing. Call 301-397-2200 for more information.

www.greenbeltmd.gov/summerconnect

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on:

- Arts Advisory Board
- Board of Elections
- Forest Preserve Advisory Board
- Public Safety Advisory Committee
- Senior Citizens Advisory Committee
- Youth Advisory Committee

For more information call 301- 474-8000

CONSIDER MAKING A DONATION TO ONE OF THE CITY’S CHARITABLE FUNDS

The City of Greenbelt receives no portion of these funds nor does it charge an administrative fee for processing the donations

GOOD SAMARITAN FUND TO ASSIST ST. HUGH’S FOOD PANTRY: This fund is overseen by the Greenbelt Interfaith Leadership Association (GILA). The St. Hugh Food Pantry will also take food donations that are dropped outside of the church office at 135 Crescent Road. Thank you so much for your help!

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FUND: Established to accept and disburse donations received to assist Greenbelt residents to pay rent to avoid possible eviction. Approximately a dozen individuals receive assistance from these funds each fiscal year.

Donate online at www.greenbeltmd.gov/donations



The City of Greenbelt is proud to introduce the new...

Food Scraps Drop-Off Program beginning August 1st, 2020!

Food scraps normally fill up the land-fill and slowly release greenhouse gases. By partnering with Compost Crew, Greenbelt residents will now be able to bring excess food scraps to the Recycling Center located in between Buddy Attick Park and the Public Works Building at 555 Crescent Road.



The first 100 interested participants to register for the program will receive a complimentary kitchen caddy and 5 gallon bucket for food scraps!

To register please send an email to Environmental Coordinator, Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll: kdriscoll@greenbeltmd.gov

RALLY continued from page 1

about justice must be louder.” He acknowledged the Greenbelt Police Department, including Chief Rick Bowers, standing with the marchers and that “we must march in unity, love and peace.”

Councilmember Emmett Jordan followed and spoke of the cultural, social and racial divisions that have too long separated us.

Mayor Colin Byrd showed up “booted and suited” in the 99-degree weather to challenge the marchers to “take our community back, block by block.” He called the names of victims of violence in Greenbelt and thanked the Greenbelt Police Department for securing arrests and offering some sense of comfort and justice to the families.

Byrd, reading from prepared notes, reminded the crowd that there is no single cause and no single solution to crime. He cited past attempts at quick solutions from the broken window policies, where strict enforcement became the mandate, to a focus on gun control, to a focus on fewer police officers and more attention to mental health treatment. He stressed that a jump to an oversimplified cause of crime is as errant as an oversimplified solution. “The litany of causes cited by experts as the root cause of crime requires that the community’s response must be as varied.” He reminded us that police enforcement is only part of the solution – that it cannot be the only solution. “The people in this community will determine how much crime is in this community. Excellence should be the stan-

dard. There may be obstacles, but not excuses.” He concluded his remarks by saying unity is not uniformity. That a loving family is not perfect, but a loving family solves problems. He reminded listeners that Franklin Park is referred to as the ‘hood and asked the crowd “what is missing?” “Neighbor” was the response.



Greenbelt Police Chief Rick Bowers and community organizer Ric Gordon share a moment together during the rally.

PHOTO BY RIC GORDON

GIVES continued from page 1

course that teaches research-based safe driving strategies to drivers over 50.

Telephone reassurance is an excellent opportunity for anyone who wants to know how they can help. “We had an old lady who lived alone,” Drees said. “She was bored, she just missed seeing people, so we had a member who called her once a week on Monday. She just wanted someone to talk to. If you’re living alone and you’re concerned that someone might not notice if you don’t show up, we can have someone call you on a regular basis.”

“It’s not just Old Greenbelt,” Drees added. “We’re getting more into Franklin Park and Hanover Parkway. We have people at Schrom Hills and over by Roosevelt. We try to incorporate anybody in Greenbelt. Helping each other is the Greenbelt way.”

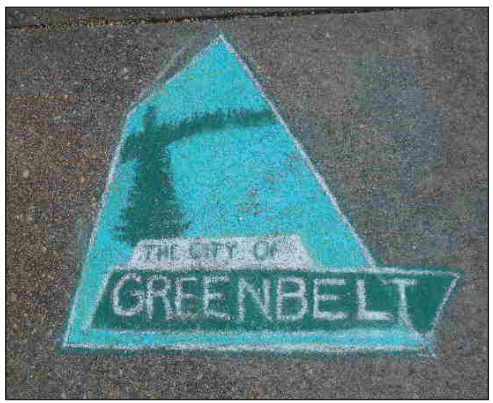
In 1994, Janet Jacobs-Parker, Pat Unger and Judith Davis were inspired by Edgar Cahn’s book, Time Dollars, to explore how using the idea of volunteer service credit hours could help meet

the needs of aging or disabled Greenbelters who wished to continue living independently in their own homes. After establishing a Project Design Committee, working with the Cooperative Caring Network of the United Seniors Health Cooperative and enlisting the help and support of dozens of Greenbelt organizations including the Golden Age Club, faith groups and civic organizations, GIVES held its first annual meeting on June 3, 1995.

GAIL, Greenbelt Assistance in Living, is a program staffed by the City of Greenbelt. Together, GIVES and GAIL offer a wide range of services to special needs populations and those wishing to age in place in their Greenbelt homes.

GIVES is a membership orga-

nization. To become a member, you must fill out a participant application. There are no fees. For information about becoming a GIVES volunteer or to receive assistance, send an email to givesoffice@gmail.com or leave a message at 301-507-6580. The GIVES office, located in the Community Center, is normally staffed from 10 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 3 p.m.



A chalk representation of the Greenbelt emblem decorates a sidewalk at the corner of Gardenway and Ridge Roads.

PHOTO BY GLENN HARRIS

My Perspective

My Experience of Racism and How I Got to Where I Am Now

by LaWann Stribling

Thank you, Greenbelt News Review, for allowing the community space to voice their opinions.

As an African American descendant of chattel slavery, I have experienced racism beginning at the age of 9 in 1986. At that time I didn’t understand why I was being treated that way. It wasn’t until I got older, though still a child, that I understood the meaning of racism. It is difficult for any child to be okay while accepting mistreatment. For some reason it was acceptable in the private school I attended in Bowie, because not only did some students treat me that way but the staff did as well. It was then that I realized that my life isn’t the same as someone of Caucasian descent.

Racism was prevalent in all areas of my life. In high school I also experienced prejudice from students that looked like me wondering why I spoke like a white person and why I played soccer. Due to family issues I ended up being homeless at 17 years old. This is when my journey began to find who I am. Growing out of my struggles to be a homeless teen mom, I immersed myself in reading about the Black Panther Party of Self Defense, Assata Shakur, Soledad Brother, Malcolm X and Sister Souljah. This is when I began to understand that racism, derived from slavery and continuing to today, whether in education, employment, credit, banking or welfare, has somehow become acceptable. As if everything was okay.

I found myself having to reach out for government assistance because I got denied for just about every job I applied to, work I needed to be able to take care of myself and my son. It was at that time that I decided to sell weed and crack because no way was I going to put myself out in the streets for prostitution or be a stripper. Even though life was super depressing I refused to go that low for myself. But after seeing how crack is just the devil, I decided I no longer wanted to be a part of that scene either. Nothing good came from crack cocaine in our community and I could not further degrade

my brothers and sisters by selling them that poison. It was easy money but their lives mattered more to me so I stuck to selling weed for a while and this was just to make ends meet and provide food for my son and myself.

I finally was hired through a temporary agency and did many temp jobs until I applied to another company and they offered me permanent part-time employment. That part-time job ended up taking 30 hours a week, yet the pay was decent and it was a permanent position so I stayed. After less than six months of being there, the company felt I was a great enough employee so they offered me a full-time position where I remained for seven years. About six years in, the supervisor that hired me retired and the management at the office expected me to do her job and mine until they hired someone. Then they expected me to train my newly hired supervisor. Well I laughed at that and took myself out of work under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) due to work-related stress. Prior to that leave as I was cleaning out my former supervisor’s desk, I came across interview and job description paperwork. It was this time that I noticed I was being paid \$7,000 less for the position I held versus Caucasian employees at the other local recruiting admin positions. I decided to fight for this pay via the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. While out on FMLA the employer sent me notice that my pay would be increased by \$7,000.

I returned to work after a few weeks on FMLA but life with the new supervisor wasn’t good because I was being constantly micromanaged. Everything I did I got written up. After a short time, I had to take health-related leave again. I was hospitalized for two weeks then ended up having a treatment-related blood clot develop in my arm. During this time my employer sent me a letter saying I was creating a burden for the department, while I was lying in bed, fighting for

See RACISM, page 11



REQUEST A MEAL DONATE A MEAL

FEED GREENBELT

Each \$10 donation provides 1 reheatable meal to a Greenbelt resident in need. Meals are balanced and delicious. They are made from whole foods and are free from chemicals and preservatives.

Meals are offered on Wednesdays and Saturdays for contactless pickup at The New Deal Cafe front patio from 4:30pm-5pm. Free contactless delivery is available. The signup deadline is Sunday noon for the following Wednesday & Saturday.

Hosted by DC Vegan and MCF Community Church

Come in We're

OPEN

141 Centerway

Greenbelt MD. 20770

301-474-4881

Maria's Beauty Shop

We are open.

Call us for your next hair appointment.



FREE

Used walnut color upper and lower kitchen cabinets. Lower cabinets include 90" Formica butcher block counter top.

Call 301-580-0484

Council Looks at Crime Spike, Reopening, Senior Housing, More

by Cathie Meetre

After nearly four hours of discussion, including on the city/police collective bargaining agreement (reported on in the July 16 issue), councilmembers realized how much more business still remained on the agenda as the clock reached midnight at the July 13 meeting.

Cultural Positives

Apparently, the prospect of imminently turning into a pumpkin wonderfully concentrated the mind of council. In a good-humored exchange after midnight and over four hours into the meeting, the Friends of Greenbelt Theatre (FGT) were rapidly approved to offer Moonlit Movies on Braden Field – with extensive COVID-19 precautions in place. After thanking Director Dr. Caitlin McGrath for waiting so patiently, council passed the motion unanimously.

Earlier, City Manager Nicole Ard also congratulated Museum Director Megan Young of the Greenbelt Museum, who had earlier announced that the museum won a grant of \$100,000 from the Maryland Milestones Heritage group.

Recreation Department

Equally affirming was a proclamation that lauded the contribution of the Park and Recreation program to Greenbelt, as part of Park and Recreation Month. Newly minted Recreation Director Greg Varda said that the National Recreation and Parks Association wants to highlight the contributions of park and recreation professionals in helping communities weather the pandemic. He described how his department has supported the community and, in the absence of Community Center Manager Di Quynn Reno, who couldn't attend, Therapeutic Recreation Director Becky Sutfin recounted how the department is celebrating its staff in this month. Recreation Coordinator Allison Longworth, of the Virtual Recreation Center, said she was concerned with learning, connecting and then inspiring citizens to go out and do something. Recreation Coordinator Frank Jones described how recreation staff were prepping and distributing kits for summer programs and described how Bill Agbodjogbe, a rising 11th-grader living in Franklin Park, is designing an art piece for use as a mural, a poster or an illustration. It embodies a collage about recreation in the city.

Resident Lore Rosenthal requested that the council use the format of Zoom that allows visuals on all those at the meeting, including the public, and council agreed to consider that, with the side note from Councilmember Judith Davis that it needs to be secure. Rosenthal assured council that the Zoom bombing they experienced earlier was unlikely to be a problem as the result of a number of updates to Zoom security.

Violent Crime Spike

On a more somber note, City Manager Nicole Ard introduced Police Chief Rick Bowers who commented on the two homicides and other violence that had occurred in the previous week. Though it seems no two incidents were related, there has been a spike in violent crime in the city. Bowers noted that

the police department has added more patrols in Franklin Park and Greenbelt East and is working with Franklin Park and the IT group to relocate surveillance cameras. He commended his staff for their work during such a taxing week. The department is holding meetings with Franklin Park to develop strategies but, he noted, COVID-19 is causing additional difficulties relating to the risks of face-to-face contact. There have been no recent incidents in Greenbelt East, but Bowers referenced concerns based on incidents from last year. The situation is exacerbated because the department is below strength due to resignations. Council was interested in a more detailed briefing on the crimes, but were concerned to not expose the investigations. (Note: an arrest has since been made in one homicide.)

Managed Lanes

Council was united in expressing strong opposition to the potential managed lanes project that involves the Beltway from the Woodrow Wilson bridge through Greenbelt and extending up Route 270. Councilmember Leta Mach asked about the city's participation in the planning, saying they should encourage citizens to comment on the proposal. Director of Planning and Community Development Terri Hruby has provided information on how to make comments (accepted through October 8). Public comment is invited at 495-270-p3.com/your-participation/provide-feedback. Councilmember Rodney Roberts felt the city should be filing legal action and noted that he thought WSSC customers would have to pay for the moving of the water line that runs alongside the road to the tune of "millions and millions of dollars."

Greenbelt Armory

Roberts asked if there were any updates on the transfer of the Greenbelt Armory to the city. Ard explained that the federal government has consented to giving up their rights to the property and will lease it (for \$1) to allow the city to take it over until the transfer of deed is complete. The city can thus secure the building from ongoing vandalism and perform any needed construction. Councilmember Edward Putens urged the city to immediately board up the building. Ard confirmed that the police department is working on the security of the armory.

Reopening Strategies

Pool: Councilmember Emmett Jordan noted that county pools have already been open for two weeks and expressed concern that the city was behind the curve. Varda noted that the two sticking points are completing lifeguard training and finishing adaptations to the buildings. Assistant Director of Facilities Joe McNeal said that the delay is all about safety, pointing out that after reopening, one Anne Arundel County pool had to close back down due to COVID-19 exposure. The city hopes to reopen before the end of July and will make an announcement in due course. McNeal also added that, although county pools are open, participation is marginal – people are staying away

See **COUNCIL**, page 12

CAMPS continued from page 1

this year's camp choices, run by Phelan. The camp has four activity areas. Culinary Creations offers "kid friendly recipes," said Phelan, and instructions on preparing a variety of food. Just Craftin' Around teaches arts and crafts with household items. Let's Get Physical offers "a variety of movement activities, including yoga, sport-specific drills, running tips, workouts and much more." Virtual Variety is a panoply of opportunities, from crafts, physical activities and science explorations to scavenger hunts. New videos on all this are offered every day along with three daily Zoom sessions.

Seventeen campers registered for the first session. Said Phelan, "While we would love to have more campers, this total allowed

us to maximize the participation and interactions with our campers."

For Phelan, the greatest challenge this year has been increasing registrations. While cognizant of each year's changing circumstances and the impossibility of meeting every family's needs, he said that he was grateful for the campers who did sign up and that his staff is "committed to providing this service to our camp families."

Phelan's biggest surprise was over the quick adaptation and comfort level of campers in the new virtual environment." He added that, "Our campers have even shared technology tips with staff on multiple occasions."

"We have created a safe en-

vironment for this summer that ensures our campers are able to form or strengthen their bonds with their fellow campers and our camp staff," said Phelan.

He was keen to extol the indispensable efforts of his staff: A.J. Sesay, Brittney Shue, Darius Ross, Gaye Houchens, Taylor Koebler, Frank Nduka, Kavon Johnson, Khaleel Todd, Quinn Valentich, Kennedy Kirksey and Mikah Jones.

Oudemans is hopeful that next year's summer camps will be back to a regular format. Yet she is proud of and grateful to her dedicated staff for their ability to "make this year's offerings happen," adding that feedback from families on this novel concept "has been so positive."



Campers make Bubble Art aided by Just Craftin' Around Counselor Kennedy Kirksey (top left) and Camp Managers Brittney Shue (top center) and A.J. Sesay (bottom left).

LISTEN to the NEWS REVIEW
Visually impaired may listen for free
Call Metropolitan Washington Ear
301-681-6636
No special equipment needed

Send Us Your High Resolution Photos!
The News Review encourages readers to send in photos of Greenbelt landmarks, activities and the changing seasons. Photos should be at least 300 dpi, and must include the name of the photographer and a caption. The caption must name any identifiable people in the photo, as well as explain the picture.
If you are sending photos from your phone, please choose the option to send "actual size", or upload the photos to your computer first and then email the photos at full size. Send photos to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

Draft Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

**U.S. Department of Agriculture
Agriculture Research Services**

**Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Relocation of Two Poultry Quarantine Houses and the Wildlife Staff Office
Henry A. Wallace Beltsville Agricultural Research Center**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Research Service (ARS) has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) to analyze the potential impacts associated with the proposed relocation of two poultry quarantine houses and the Wildlife Staff Office to alternate locations at the Henry A. Wallace Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) located in Beltsville, Prince George's County, Maryland. This notice announces the availability of the EA for public review and comment. The EA was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508, and evaluates the potential impacts of the Proposed Action and No Action alternatives. Under the Proposed Action alternative, BARC Building 434 would be renovated to accommodate the functions of the two existing poultry quarantine houses, and a modular building would be sited along Beaver Dam Road near BARC Building 513 to accommodate the Wildlife Staff Office. The EA is open for a 30-day public review from July 23, 2020 through August 22, 2020. An electronic copy of the draft EA and Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) can be found on ARS's website at: <https://www.ars.usda.gov/northeast-area/docs/draft-environmental-assessment/>. Hard copies can be obtained by contacting Ms. Chizo Irechukwu, Facilities Division, USDA-ARS, 10300 Baltimore Avenue, Bldg 426 BARC-East, Room 108, Beltsville, MD 20705, or via email at chizo.irechukwu@usda.gov. Comments on the draft EA and FNSI should be submitted to Ms. Chizo Irechukwu at the addresses listed above no later than 30 days from publication of this notice.

LIGGINS continued from page 1

4.1 percent. Greenway Center and Beltway Plaza are open once again, yet both suffer from store closures and reduced traffic.

Councilmember Silke Pope suggested revisiting the idea of forming an economic development advisory committee that could aid in business outreach and support. Councilmember Judith Davis furthered the idea by suggesting two separate groups: a chamber of commerce (or round table, said Jordan) that would allow communication among businesses, and a citizen advisory group that would largely assist council. Liggins was amenable to the ideas, having been thinking along the same lines.

Inspired by the International Economic Development Council's toolkit, Liggins laid out a list of both short-term (6 to 12 months) and long-term (12 to 18 months) recommendations for economic recovery. The short-term recommendations include continuity planning; technical assistance; connecting to city, county, state, federal and private resources; a Greenbelt Improvement and Recovery Fund; creation of a business advisory board (as mentioned above); promoting of local businesses; and support for emerging businesses and entrepreneurs. Long-term recommendations include strategic planning for disaster recovery; an economic impact study; and development and implementation of a marketing strategy. Council was grateful for this comprehensive and useful game plan.

Liggins presented a memorandum outlining a proposed Greenbelt Business Improvement and Recovery Fund, in response to council's request. With funds from a county CARES Act grant, \$300,000 would be earmarked and distributed in \$5,000 grants, to help local nonprofit and small businesses that have been impacted by the pandemic,

including sole proprietorships, self-employed individuals, independent contractors and cooperative businesses. Applications would be reviewed by an independent committee consisting of one representative each from city staff, a local financial institution, a local business person (not eligible for the grant program) and the Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation. Applications will require the following information: W-9, proof of business address, 2019 income statement or business tax return, 2020 year-to-date income statement and a completed business recovery and reopening plan that will outline use of funds for reopening and future continuity, as well as information on things such as number of employees, business industry and previous requests for assistance.

Davis had a misgiving concerning the \$5,000 amount, feeling that it was insufficient for any substantial long-term aid and suggested perhaps a range of awards be allowed. Councilmember Rodney Roberts countered that a truly small business, say with fewer than 100 employees, would find the amount effective. Liggins stated that keeping the amount to \$5,000 was important in terms of administrative concerns.

Jordan posited the idea of perhaps making the money a loan if a business was in the position to pay it back before a 6- or 12-month period, thus making more funds available for distribution. Liggins was unsure if this option is possible under funding guidelines.

Yet, council was enthusiastic about the proposal, and eager to vote on it at their August meeting and to have it up and running by September, as long as the application process was streamlined and the selection equitable and just.



Virtual Recreation

Greenbelt Recreation's summer programs are online via the Virtual Recreation Center. Go to greenbeltnmd.gov/recreation to access a wide range of online activities, including classes, summer camps, video tutorials, sing-alongs and more. Art activities can be accessed in the Visual Arts section of the Virtual Recreation Center.

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My Perspective

Connect City Shopping Centers To Enhance Local Economics

by Konrad Herling

The city needs to explore having its three shopping centers work together, as each provides services unique to their space. This was recommended by the city's economic development coordinator at the recent city council worksession. Councilmembers suggested having a round table for local businesses and perhaps one that connected the Greenbelt public with the business community. The city could benefit from the expertise of the Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation as part of this effort as well.

Roosevelt Center

Advice is needed, again from the County Economic Development Corporation, as to how to address a center with multiple stakeholders (the city, George Christacos, the owner of the former medical building, the owner of the barber shop building and of the gas station.)

My suggestion is an overall city entity to facilitate more effective marketing, which would include conducting a marketing study of Roosevelt Center – there has not been one since 2000. This entity could coordinate programming and security, and enhance lighting and signage as recommended by the Arts Advisory Board and recently adopted by council. It might also work toward purchasing the two original buildings (aside from the movie theater, already owned by the city) from the Christacos family. Further, continuing to work with the State Highway Administration to secure improved signage directing folks on Greenbelt Road to the Roosevelt Center is also important.

Greenway Center

This shopping center needs to

consider something that I requested as a councilmember eight or more years ago – providing for access for a community shuttle (as well as Metro and county buses). Greenway points out that it would require eliminating parking spaces to accommodate such access. However, the shopping center could make up for that loss with the additional folks who do not drive, or do not wish to drive if there is a viable alternative. This would also support the Greenbelt principle of providing viable alternatives to the automobile and reducing carbon emissions. Greenway Center should help with the cost of a Greenbelt shuttle, which would benefit folks using infant care and hotel services. Finally, Greenway needs to more fully explore access via bike as there is a growing community of people who use this method of transportation, evident even more clearly during the pandemic.

Beltway Plaza

Given its proposed residential expansion, Beltway Plaza should similarly be part of paying for a shuttle as it helps attract folks who do not have or wish to use a car. Having a shuttle, as well as working with city, county and state transportation planners to create bike lane(s) and accessible walkways, can help reduce vehicular traffic on Route 193 – a major concern raised at the Park & Planning Commission meeting a few months ago. The issue becomes even more important given the proposal for new housing. Again, a shuttle would help address those concerns as well as provide a link for residents of that area to access the services at Beltway Plaza plus a connection to the historic section of town

and commercial services and parks in Greenbelt East.

The idea of connecting the shopping centers as well as recreational and community services throughout town without having to use a car is a Greenbelt principle and would reduce carbon emissions.

Housing

Changes in housing policy would have to ultimately be decided by the county. But Greenbelt, given its founding principles of affordability, should seriously consider requesting that the county apply mixed income housing that integrates folks with differing incomes. Montgomery and Fairfax Counties have incorporated those principles. Council and the city's Planning & Community Development Department proposed that idea several years ago but the county council did not approve of implementing the approach.

We need to look at rent control which, again, other surrounding areas have implemented. Our county's per capita income is less than surrounding jurisdictions, thus the cost of rent and utilities has a greater adverse impact on renters. Perhaps property owners could secure a tax benefit in exchange.

We should explore the possibility of cooperative housing, though it has proven difficult for me to secure more information. Co-ops can provide decent housing that is less expensive because there are no shareholders demanding profits. This also could possibly apply to the search for affordable senior housing.

All three of these approaches should be fully considered. The

See **CONNECTIVITY**, page 11

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Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, www.greenbeltmd.gov/police
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Homicide

On July 12, 9:54 p.m., officers responded to a report of the sound of shots coming from a residence in the 9000 block of Breezewood Terrace. Officers located the adult male victim suffering from apparent gunshot wounds. Despite lifesaving efforts by officers the victim was pronounced deceased on the scene. He was identified as Keanu Alonnie Wright, 24, of Greenbelt. Investigators developed a suspect and obtained an arrest warrant charging Anthony Alberto Redd, 20, of Greenbelt, with 1st Degree Murder, 2nd Degree Murder, 1st Degree Assault, 2nd Degree Assault, Use of a Firearm in a Crime of Violence and other related charges. The warrant was served July 16 by the Prince George’s County Police Regional Investigations Division and Prince George’s County Police WAVE Team in District Heights. The suspect was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a District Court Commissioner. Investigation revealed the suspect and victim were engaged in a verbal altercation before the shooting.

Shooting

July 9, 3 p.m., officers responded to a report of a shooting in the 5800 block of Cherrywood Lane. Officers located the victim suffering from an apparent gunshot wound to her upper body. The victim was transported to a local hospital for treatment of non-life-threatening injuries. Investigators developed a suspect and obtained an arrest warrant charging Antwaun Tony Lee, 29, of College Park, with First Degree Assault. The suspect was subsequently arrested by the Prince George’s County Sheriff’s Department and the Anne Arundel County Police Department in Laurel and transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a District Court Commissioner.

Assault

On July 11, 10:25 p.m., in

the 5800 block of Cherrywood Terrace, officers responded to a report of the sound of gunshots. Officers located a subject on the ground, suffering facial trauma. Witnesses observed four males, no further description available, running from the area, possibly getting into a white vehicle and fleeing the scene. The victim was transported to a local hospital for treatment. Investigation revealed that gunshots were fired in the area, but the victim was not struck by any rounds.

Robbery

July 11, 12:07 a.m., in the area of Cherrywood Terrace and Breezewood Court, a robbery was reported. The victim advised that he was approached by three to four males, no further description available, who pushed him between two vehicles. Two of the suspects produced handguns and began punching and kicking the victim. The suspects then took the victim’s cell phone and some of his clothing. The victim was transported to a local hospital for treatment. The suspects possibly left the area in a blue 4-door vehicle.

July 14, 9:15 a.m., in the 6000 block of Springhill Drive, a strong-arm robbery was reported. The victim advised that she was walking down the street when she was approached by the suspect, who punched her in the face and took her purse. The victim refused medical treatment. The suspect is described as a Black male wearing light blue jeans, a white T-shirt and a black mask.

Theft

On July 9, at 5:08 p.m., a package was taken from the front stoop of a residence in the 5900 block of Cherrywood Terrace.

July 15, 12:39 p.m. Unknown person(s) took a passport from a residence at 15 Parkway.

Vandalism

On July 9 at 4:39 p.m., unknown person(s) used a tree branch to break out the bedroom window of a residence in the 9200 block of Springhill Lane.

Vehicle Crime

On July 9, the driver’s side window was broken and the driver’s airbag was stolen from eight different vehicles in the 9300 block of Edmonston Road, 5800 and 5900 blocks of Cherrywood Terrace, 5800 block of Cherrywood Lane, and 6100 block of Breezewood Court. In one case, money was also taken from the center console.

On July 10, on the 7200 block of Hanover Parkway, rear windows were broken out of four different vehicles; in two cases power tools were stolen.

That same day, rear windows were broken on two vehicles in the 9100 block of Edmonston Road. Power tools were stolen from one.

Arrest in Fatal Stabbing And Another Assault

In reference to the July 4 fatal stabbing of 37-year-old Travis Devon Melvin, which occurred in the 6100 of Breezewood Drive, Darlan Josue Suarez Menjivar, 22, of Lanham, has been arrested and charged with 1st Degree Murder, 2nd Degree Murder, 1st Degree Assault, 2nd Degree Assault, Reckless Endangerment and other related charges.

The suspect was arrested on July 17 by the U.S. Marshals Service in Frederick, after Greenbelt investigators obtained arrest warrants. The suspect has also been charged with 1st Degree Assault, 2nd Degree Assault and other related charges related to the April 26 stabbing of a 24-year-old male in the 5700 block of Cherrywood Lane. The suspect has been transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a District Court Commissioner.

Social Security Still Supports Clients During Pandemic

LaQuitta Moultrie, district manager of the Greenbelt Social Security Office, speaking on behalf of the Social Security Administration (SSA), said, “I want to let you know that during the current coronavirus pandemic, SSA continues to provide help to you and others in your community.”

While the offices are not providing service to walk-in visitors due to COVID-19, SSA remains committed to providing ongoing benefits and vital services. SSA remains ready and able to help by phone with most Social Security matters. Speak with a representative by calling their toll-free number 1-800-772-1213 or by calling the local office for Greenbelt at 866-338-4115.

SSA also offers many secure and convenient resources at socialsecurity.gov. Those with a “my Social Security” online account can:

- Apply for Retirement, Dis-

ability and Medicare benefits,

- Request a replacement Social Security card (in most areas),
- Print a benefit verification letter, change an address, telephone or bank account information and much more.

Although most business with SSA can be done online, they still provide help by phone. In addition, if they cannot help a client by phone or online, they may be able to schedule an in-person appointment.

Lastly, SSA also understands that getting medical and other documentation can be difficult due to the pandemic. So, they are continuing to extend certain deadlines wherever possible.

“If you need help from SSA, please don’t wait until they can see you in person. Reach out now and get the help you need,” concluded Moultrie.

This information was provided by the Social Security Administration.



PHOTO BY HELENOR MESIAS

A hollyhock nods in the sunshine.

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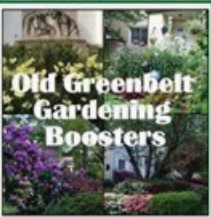
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NOTICES

BLACK LIVES MATTER

OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS, A 12-step support group for people with over and under eating and other problems with food. Meets Monday at 7:30. Attend by Zoom or phone. For info, call 240-305-3433.

SERVICES

IN APPRECIATION of the Greenbelt community's compliance with the pandemic guidelines, Lawn & Order is offering free snow removal for the rest of the month. So before the next July blizzard hits, call Lawn & Order and remember to stay young and safe. 240-264-7638.

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CONNECTIVITY continued from page 8

fact that some of these ideas have been proposed to the county before and not taken hold does not mean we should give up.

Connecting the Town

In addition to the shuttle connecting our shopping centers (with stops at other primary sites such as the library and museum, Springhill Lake Community Center and Schrom Hills Park), we should consider building more overpasses and underpasses. This was a goal adopted by the city council in 1979.

Some may conclude that this doesn't have anything to do with the city's economic development. However, applying the original town principle of underpasses, as built in the 1930s, and the Gladys Noon Spellman Overpass that connected Greenbelt East and the core of Greenbelt in the 1980s, can be a marketing tool for businesses and homeowners, current and future. Being able to safely access different parts of town creates more opportunities for walking and biking, which have become increasingly popular. Further, carbon emissions are reduced if fewer folks are using their cars to access parks, shopping, religious sites, etc.

We could apply the principles learned from the Spellman overpass that include excellent lighting and consider new approaches such as providing for artwork and music on the overpass. Make it a place for safe and easy access for bicyclists and pedestrians.

A number of people have expressed concern regarding the lack of safe walking or biking at the Southway/193 intersection. An overpass there is worth considering. Additionally, we are overdue on how we can connect, via an overpass from central Greenbelt, perhaps via the Golden Triangle, to Franklin Park. This specific

idea was proposed as a city goal in 1979 as well.

Clearly, there are challenges. It would require securing architectural design work from neighboring universities, coordination with our departments, advisory boards and, in the case of a Franklin Park connection, working directly with the Franklin Park Community Association. Obviously, this translates to a process that will be lengthy but nonetheless worthwhile.

The county needs to establish a process where development proposals are presented to the communities immediately affected by them. Further, it needs to reach out and involve folks from that area and the city as a whole, including folks in the arts, recreational and environmental communities. Developers can learn from those people and improve their proposals. Folks affected directly by such developments will at least have a say about change that impacts their lives.

A final development approach to consider: given that Greenbelt has the highest office vacancy rate of all municipalities in our county, the city and county could explore making use of the Green Tax Incentive program where businesses can secure tax benefits for attracting environmental businesses to help fill the empty offices.

These proposals will take time, though some of them can be done more quickly than others as funding, design work, community input and the input of the business community is much more easily said than done. But together, the "City of the Future," as Greenbelt was declared in the film The City in 1939, can be One Greenbelt and truly reflect those goals in 2020 and beyond.

RACISM continued from page 6

my life and the life of my unborn child. I returned to work after seven or eight weeks of leave, but the harassment began again and then lies from Human Resources. Ultimately, I was released from employment with severance pay and the opportunity to file for unemployment benefits. This all happened in November 2007, just before the recession of my lifetime.

I decided enough was enough for me and if I am going to struggle, I will struggle working for myself. I attended school to begin my career as a home daycare provider and I've been working for myself since then. The systematic racism and oppression have been a constant throughout my life. I have been denied credit applications for vehicles and apartments because I didn't have any credit established. The only way I finally established credit was because an auto dealership had to approve credit for me due to an error they made while running my credit scores. I was 30 years old before I bought my first car paying a whopping interest rate of 27 percent. I refinanced at my credit union six months afterwards at 9 percent. The problems didn't end there. At the time I was attempting to move further up the road to Greenbelt so my son could attend the better neighborhood school, yet was denied by every apartment management I applied to because they said I didn't have enough credit history.

I was thankful to find a private owner who took a chance on me 10 years ago. I have been residing in Greenbelt for 10 years now and I have observed how some residents are very racist. I would just like to know when will it end? When will I be looked at as a full human being and not three fifths of one?

We are ultimately tired of the oppression and racism this county is built on. Nothing makes you better than the next person because of the color of your skin. It is time for everyone to stand up against racism.

What you have failed to realize is that not only are BIPOC (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) affected by the systems in place to oppress people, but so are all middle-class citizens. Inflation continues to rise and the wealthy get wealthier while we continue to deal with the mess created following Reconstruction after the Civil War. I know everyone has heard enough times about police departments being defunded, ending police unions and related issues. I just cannot fathom why anyone is placed above the law. What makes an officer the judge and jury in our corrupt criminal justice system? Most police still work on the same guidance set for slave catchers. It is 2020 and we are still being treated like we are worthless. The history is here for everyone to read the truth about the United States of America yet there are those among us who act as if asking for equality is wrong. What is wrong about wanting to be treated equally in all aspects of American life?

We are at a point in our lives when you can make a difference for the generations that are behind you. Do you want to keep seeing everything get worse or do you want to do something to effectively enact change? Winter is coming!



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A juvenile five-lined skink shows off its magnificent tail stripes near the Lake.

PHOTO BY KATHRYN BEARD

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The Leader in
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Brick Townhome on Corner Lot 3BR GHI home - completely remodeled. Large fenced yard w/ Trex patio and shed. Modern kitchen & bath, nice!
Addition With Full Bath Downstairs 2 BR GHI townhome with large family room/bedroom on main level. Completely remodeled - opened kitchen.

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Senior Living 55+ Community 2Br 2Ba condo w/fireplace & more! Remodeled w/new kitchen, modern baths, sunlit enclosed patio, new carpet & paint.
Cape Cod Home Investors - priced to sell! 3BR 1 1/2 Ba home with large fenced yard, \$149,900. Dining rm., br & full bath on mn. lev. \$208,900
Estate Sale GHI 2 Bedroom townhome with hardwood floors, opened kitchen & breakfast bar. Large fenced backyard opens onto protected woodlands.
Brick Townhome with Addition Full bath on main level. Remodeled kitchen & bath. Central A/C, refinished hardwood flrs., shaded & fenced backyard.
Large floorplan w/addition Half bath on main level. Masonry townhome w/ fenced backard & brick patio. Zoned HVAC system, 11' x 17' master br.
Cape Cod SFH 3br 2 1/2ba home with rem. Kitchen, above-ground pool & wrap-around deck. Finished basement with family room and office space.
Townhome with 2 additions 2 bedroom GHI home on fenced corner lot. Large fenced yard, addition to back, extra storage in front. Central HVAC.
4 Bedroom 3 Level Townhome Master bedroom & full bath on main level. Opened remodeled kitchen, fireplace in lr. Backs to protected woodlands.
Townhome with addition 2 br townhome w front laundry/office addition. Opened kitchen w/passthru & pantry. Fenced backyard with large deck.
Charlestowne Village Single-level 1-br condo in Greenbelt - no stairs! Parquet flooring throughout. Remodeled kit. With S/S appliances. \$149,900
Addition - Backs to Woodlands Completely remodeled throughout; half bath on main level. Central HVAC system. Fenced yard, shed & raised deck.
Brick Townhome 2 Bedroom GHI townhome remodeled throughout. Modern kitchen with s/s dishwasher. Hardwood both levels. \$169,900
Upper Level One Bedroom GHI home with full-sized washer and dryer in separate laundry room. Refinished hardwood flooring throughout. Nice!
2 BR Townhome Remodeled GHI home w/ new carpet fresh paint & ceramic bath. Priced to sell at \$124,900

Your Greenbelt Specialists
In Roosevelt Center

COUNCIL continued from page 7

because they feel it is a risk.

Aquatics Facility Supervisor Steve Parks described the re-opening strategies contemplated. All swimmers must have an appointment made 24 hours in advance and each will have an assigned lane or area and specific times. Exit will be via the changing rooms. Locker rooms will be cleaned after each 45- to 60-minute swim session. Only lap swimming and water walking will be allowed. Pool management is working to optimize the number of swimmers and will make adjustments as they learn more in practice.

Dog Park: Councilmember Silke Pope didn't want to hold up opening the Dog Park and wants a comprehensive review of the rules. Davis confirmed that the Dog Park is physically ready to reopen but the access rules aren't set. Though Captain Gordon Pracht recommends reopening, he also felt it was necessary to figure out the rules first. Hruby says that the draft rules are based on input generated by two worksessions, by comments from the public and from examples of other successful dog parks. Putens noted that COVID-19 would result in a more expensive project and, in considering fees, they should be set high enough to cover costs.

Affordable Senior Housing

Council was asked to send a letter of recommendation to the

state on behalf of the development of affordable senior housing – a 60-unit development proposed on the grounds of Holy Cross Lutheran Church on Greenbelt Road.

The development of this rental property by the church and development company Ingerman is only economically viable if the developer is granted tax credits by the state. Ingerman representative David Holden noted that credits are awarded competitively and in advance of detailed planning. He stated that a letter from the city would assist the development team in obtaining the credits, pointing out that this would not be the last time the city would have the chance to weigh in.

He directed council's attention to Ingerman's nearby facility in Bladensburg as an example of a successful development (Birchwood at Newton Green at 5300 Newton Road). He noted that rents would be a percentage of typical local rates.

Roberts was opposed because "we don't know anything about it." Hruby noted that the letter of support does not imply overall approval, but merely indicates support for this type of property on the site. If the project moved forward, there would be a special exception hearing at which the city could comment. At that point there would be a detailed plan and design.

Larry Taub, counsel for the project team of church and developer, reacted to Roberts's additional concerns over conforming to constraints imposed by the federal government when the land was transferred to church ownership. He said that he knew of no such constraints but would double-check. Taub noted that the letter of support from local government was a critical element in seeking tax credits, and without it, the application stood little chance of success.

Resident Molly Lester, opposing the request, cited material she found on the web where residents of an Ingerman's community in Philadelphia had banded together in protest against project management. After some research (he had not previously heard of the incident), Holden said that the incident Lester was referring to had taken place several years ago and was an isolated issue with onsite management and not systemic. Ard also recounted that a city staffer and Greenbelt residents had visited the Bladensburg property.

Council approved the request for a letter of support, with Byrd abstaining and Roberts voting against.

Election Day Off

A move to specify election day as a city holiday went down to defeat. Davis noted the cost and observed that it was already the case that city employees had ample time to vote and that, in fact, a significant number of them needed to be on duty to facilitate voting.

In the wrap-up to the meeting, councilmembers requested full and timely briefing materials from the city manager in preparation for council meetings and also felt they should be meeting more often with our county council representative, Todd Turner, and the two at-large councilmembers, Calvin Hawkins and Mel Franklin.

In Appreciation

Tireless Volunteers Assist Franklin Park Children to Learn

by Lois Rosado



PHOTO COURTESY WILLIAM DAVIS

William Davis and other Greenbelt residents work in the community garden.

William and Carolyn Lambright-Davis have worked tirelessly with young children in Franklin Park and from Springhill Lake Elementary School to help them maintain their academic skills. They receive little appreciation or recognition for these efforts by most Greenbelters.

I asked Carolyn what she thought about schools not opening for face-to-face classes in the fall. Here are her thoughts: "I think there needs to be a hybrid school program because some children – immigrants, those with limited English-speaking skills, special needs children and others who lack access to the internet – need hands-on learning. If that is not possible, I think that parents need to be trained to assist their children. Also, there can be outdoor educational activities planned for the children so they have interactions with their teachers. Many children in Franklin Park don't have the internet in their homes. So, when schools closed, these children were at a major disadvantage. That will not change in the fall."

Carolyn also wants parents to be held accountable for helping their children to learn. Maybe there can be some teacher-parent Zoom meetings to enable that process. She noted that there has to be consistency on the part of the teachers when doing Zoom classes. At times this spring, teachers were not present for the scheduled Zoom meeting.

Her other concerns are about parents who have to leave home to work. Many don't have the luxury of working from home, which will present another challenge for the county school system this fall. Who will ensure that the children will access online learning, even if they have the internet connections? Who will supervise the children?

Carolyn stated that we all want to be safe, but we

need accountability for children's learning progress.

Carolyn and William have continued to work with some of the 28 children from the CHEARS after-school program that meets three days a week. Those who are part of the Earth Squad have been planting a garden since the spring and produced the best tasting Swiss chard I have ever eaten, along with lettuce. They were waiting on the strawberries and string beans to ripen. They also received academic lessons, thanks to the Davis family.

In considering all of the negative comments about the Franklin Park community, Carolyn stated that: "I let it be known about Franklin Park by the work that I do."

William and Carolyn Lambright-Davis are part of a group of Franklin Park residents that do good works for their community and for Greenbelt as a whole. There are many examples of positive life in Franklin Park. Now is the time to learn more about this community and the wonderful things happening there.



PHOTO COURTESY CAROLYN LAMBRIGHT-DAVIS

Carolyn Lambright-Davis chats with Greenbelt Chief of Police Rick Bowers.



PHOTO BY JOHANNA MOORE

Hydrangeas are in full bloom along Eastway.



PHOTO BY CHARLES JACKMAN

A great egret and a painted turtle at Ora Glen Pond in Greenbelt East